Q Is Campus planning a new community?
A We are in the very early stages of planning a new community for graduate, professional, and parent students. A Building Advisory Committee (BAC) has been appointed by Chancellor Khosla and will have its first meeting on July 17, 2014. There are 2 grad students on the BAC to represent the needs and wishes of both single and family residents. This new community is being planned in response to an ever-growing waitlist – currently at 1,400 – and in keeping with the Campus Long Range Development Plan to house at least 50% of enrolled students.

Q Where will the new community be located?
A Pending formal campus approval, it will be located in a portion of North Mesa and will be Phase 1 of a Master Plan that will include 3 Phases. The other phases are many years away from development, but the initial thinking is they will include redevelopment of the remaining portion of North Mesa.

Q What will the community look like?
A The preliminary concept includes approximately 1,300 beds housed in several buildings that will be 4-6 stories high. About 50% of the apartments will likely be studios since that’s the largest unfulfilled demand on the waitlist. The remaining apartments will likely be 2 bedroom units with the possibility of some 3 bedroom units, depending on demand and input from the BAC Student Reps. It is important that the community be inviting and open in hopes of generating more social interaction and sharing of amenities among all Mesa and OMS residents. Both a parking structure and surface parking are included in the plan. Amenities being considered include a fitness center, pool, jaccuzzi, BBQ area, conference rooms, study rooms, bike storage, and retail space.

Q Will current residents have to move to accommodate construction?
A Some residents will, but any resident displaced during this process will be offered other ARCH accommodations. We can provide more specific information once a final location is determined.

Q When does construction begin?
A The current goal is to begin construction in December 2015, however, this date is pending campus approval. This means that the removal of a portion of North Mesa apartments will likely begin in September or October 2015.

Q What impact will construction have on traffic flow?
A The goal is to confine construction ingress and egress to the north entrance of Mesa.

Q When will apartments be ready for move-in?
A Apartments are scheduled for occupancy in time for the 2017-2018 academic school year. If units are ready earlier we may be able to begin a phased occupancy summer 2017.

Q How do I get on the Waitlist?
A We will utilize our current Housing application process. Once a final design plan has been approved we will notify all residents of how to update your waitlist preferences to include this new Housing community. We will give you as much advance notice as possible.

Q How much will rental rates be in the new community?
A Rental rates will be established later in the process but it is a primary goal of HDH to maintain below-market rates for our residents.

Q How will you keep us informed about this project?
A We want to make sure you receive information on the progress of construction on a regular and timely basis. In the past we have utilized email, the ARCH newsletter, website updates, social media, and monthly construction meetings in the community once construction begins. We will utilize several of these avenues of communication and possibly others that are most convenient for you.

Q How will I be able to make sure my input is considered?
A The best way is to send your ideas to archinfo@ucsd.edu and use the subject line: New Mesa Community. Stay tuned as we will be providing contact information for the student representatives.

Thank you,
Ramona Ferreira
General Manager
ARCH Communities
http://arch.ucsd.edu/arch